

AGILENT TECHNOLOGIES, INC.
Legal Department, DL429
Intellectual Property Administration
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Loveland, Colorado 80537-0599

2882
PATENT APPLICATION

ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. 10991682-1

OCT 21 2002
CIV
IN THE
UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Inventor(s): Sorin et al.

Serial No.: 09/488,149

Examiner: Wang, George

Filing Date: 01/20/2000

Group Art Unit: 2882

Title: SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR OPTICAL HETERODYNE DETECTION OF AN OPTICAL SIGNAL THAT UTILIZES OPTICAL ATTENUATION

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COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
Washington, D.C. 20231

OCT 23 2002
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2800

TRANSMITTAL LETTER FOR RESPONSE/AMENDMENT

Sir:

Transmitted herewith is/are the following in the above-identified application:

- (X) Response/A amendment () Petition to extend time to respond
() New fee as calculated below () Supplemental Declaration
(X) No additional fee (Address envelope to "Box Non-Fee Amendments")
() Other: _____ (fee \$ _____)

CLAIMS AS AMENDED BY OTHER THAN A SMALL ENTITY						
(1) FOR	(2) CLAIMS REMAINING AFTER AMENDMENT	(3) NUMBER EXTRA	(4) HIGHEST NUMBER PREVIOUSLY PAID FOR	(5) PRESENT EXTRA	(6) RATE	(7) ADDITIONAL FEES
TOTAL CLAIMS	20	MINUS	20	= 0	X \$18	\$ 0
INDEP. CLAIMS	3	MINUS	3	= 0	X \$84	\$ 0
[] FIRST PRESENTATION OF A MULTIPLE DEPENDENT CLAIM					+ \$280	\$ 0
EXTENSION FEE	1ST MONTH \$110.00	2ND MONTH \$400.00	3RD MONTH \$920.00	4TH MONTH \$1440.00		\$ 0
OTHER FEES						\$
TOTAL ADDITIONAL FEE FOR THIS AMENDMENT						\$ 0

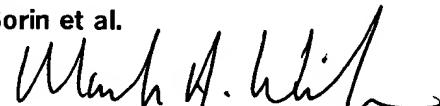
Charge \$ 0 to Deposit Account 50-1078. At any time during the pendency of this application, please charge any fees required or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account 50-1078 pursuant to 37 CFR 1.25. Additionally please charge any fees to Deposit Account 50-1078 under 37 CFR 1.16, 1.17, 1.19, 1.20 and 1.21. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231.

Respectfully submitted,

Sorin et al.

By

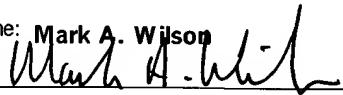

Mark A. Wilson

Attorney/Agent for Applicant(s)

Reg. No. 43,994

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Date: 10/15/2002

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Attorney Docket No. 10991682-1

PATENT APPLICATION



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

H 4/4
10-29-02

Applicant: Sorin et al.

Group Art Unit: 2882

Serial No. 09/488,149

Examiner: Wang, George

Filed: January 20, 2000

For: SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR OPTICAL HETERODYNE DETECTION OF
AN OPTICAL SIGNAL THAT UTILIZES OPTICAL ATTENUATION

Assistant Commissioner for Patents

TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2860

Washington, D.C. 20231

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OCT 23 2002

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION

Sir:

In response to the Office action mailed July 16, 2002, please amend the above-identified patent application as follows:

In the Abstract:

Please replace the Abstract at page 18 with the following rewritten paragraph:

--Monitoring an optical signal utilizing optical heterodyne detection involves attenuating an input signal before the input signal is combined with a local oscillator signal. The input signal is attenuated in order improve the signal to noise ratio of the heterodyne signal that is generated when the input signal and the local oscillator signal are combined. The signal to noise ratio of the heterodyne signal improves with attenuation of the input signal, specifically in the case where the intensity noise from the input signal is the dominant noise source, because the heterodyne signal and the intensity noise of the input signal scale differently with attenuation of the input signal.--

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.8

I hereby certify that this paper (along with any paper referred to as being attached or enclosed) is being deposited with the United States Postal Service on the date shown below with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231

Date: 10/15/2002Signed: Mark A. Wilson

Typed Name: Mark A. Wilson

Attorney Docket No. 10991682-1
Serial No. 09/488,149

Amendment and Response to Office Action